

The Watchman and Southron.

2915

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's land's Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHERN. Established June 1866

New Series—Vol. XX. No. 23

SUMTER, S. C. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1901.

THE SOUTHERN WATCHMAN. Established April, 1880.

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1891.

The Watchman and Southron.

Published Every Wednesday.

N. C. Osteen,

SUMTER, S. C.

TERMS:

\$1.50 per annum—in advance.

ADVERTISING:

One Square First Insertion.....\$1.00

Every subsequent insertion..... 50

Columns for three months, or longer will be made at special rates.

All communications which require private treatment will be charged for as advertisements.

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SERIOUS REPORTS

FROM CAPE COLONY

The Cape Dutch Are Giving

Aid to the Boers.

London, Dec 26—"We learn," says

the Daily Mail, "that the reports of the

Boers' capture of the Cape Colony are

fully confirmed. The invading Boers

are receiving much assistance from the

Cape Dutch. Railway communication

between Cape Town and the north

is almost entirely severed, partly

by Boer operations and partly by

floods."

London, Dec 26, 4.20 a. m.—There

has been a report of the dependency which

the Cape Colony has been under since

the Boers' capture of the Cape Colony

is now a fact. The Boers' capture of

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Boers Get a Good

Christmas Dinner.

Captured Methuen's Christ-

mas Luxuries.

ALSO A SQUADRON OF YEO-

MANRY.

Zuerst, Transvaal, Dec 24.—The

Boers captured two wagons contain-

ing Christmas luxuries destined for

the camp of Lord Methuen.

Cape Town, Dec 26.—A squadron

of Yeomanry, which had followed

the Boers from Britstown, is re-

ported to have been entrapped.

There were several casualties. It is

said that the remainder of the force

was captured.

THE ENGLISH DISTURBED.

London, Dec 27, 2.30 a. m.—The

panic and obscurity of the dis-

patches from South Africa give rise

to unswayed anxiety. Apparently the

disturbed area of Cape Colony ex-

tends further south than it did last

December and Lord Kitchener does

not appear to have had much success

as yet in driving back the invaders.

The war office had received no

news last evening of the reported

capture of Yeomanry near Britts-

town.

A Burgherdrup dispatch has a

mysterious reference to "an unfor-

tunate mistake of the enemy for Br-

ant's horse," which resulted in the

sounding of "cease fire," and en-

abled the Boers to occupy all the

commanding positions, the British

retiring from a difficult predicament.

Gen. Buller's success against the

Boers in the Magaliesberg region is

also doubtful, the last dispatch re-

porting that "it was considered ad-

visable not to force the Boers from

their positions."

The British press continues in the

main optimistic, but the condition

of affairs brings home the enormous

difficulties that will face Lord Kit-

chener in patrolling and policing such

immense tracts of country, even when

the Boers shall be finally subdued.

The Daily Mail, which makes a

strong appeal to the government to

"face the facts and send Lord Kit-

chener more troops," says:

"There is a real risk in being lulled

to sleep by carefully censored mes-

sages."

Leprosy in the Philippines.

Washington, Dec 26.—An appen-

dix report to Gen. MacArthur's re-

view of the civil affairs of the Phil-

ippines for the past fiscal year, gives

some rather startling facts regarding

the instruction and prevalence of

leprosy in the islands.

According to the estimation of the

Franciscan fathers, says Major Gay

L. Edie, the writer of the report, "there

are no less than 20,000 lepers in

the archipelago, the major portion

of these being in the Visayas.

Leprosy was introduced in 1633

when the emperor of Japan sent a

ship with 150 lepers on board to the

Philippines, a present to be cured

for by the Catholic priests. Thus

the seed was planted, and as no

practical methods were ever adopted

to eradicate the disease or prevent

The Boers and the British.

Newcastle, Natal, Dec 27.—The

Boers celebrated Christmas in the

district between Standerton and Ingogo

by more or less determined attacks upon

every British garrison along the lines

of communication. These, however,

were in all cases successfully repulsed.

At Utrecht the Boer commandant sent

in a demand for whiskey, cigars and

Christmas luxuries, failing which he

threatened to attack the town. His

demand was ignored, and the Boers

attacked Utrecht in strong force Christ-

mas morning. They were repulsed

with loss, the British casualties being

slight.

GEN KITCHENER'S REPORT.

London, Dec 27.—The following dis-

patch has been received from Lord

Kitchener:

"Pretoria, Dec 26.—Knox, with

Barker, Picher and White, is engaged

with De Wet's force, holding a position

in the neighborhood of Louskop.

"De Wet hopes to break through and

go south again."

"The Boers' eastern column in Cape

Colony is apparently headed by our

troops about Rietpoort Spruit. The

Boers' western column is reported to

have gone south in two portions, one

towards Prieska and the other through

Slydenberg. They are being followed

up."

THE BOERS CHECKED.

London, Dec 28, 3 a. m.—The latest

dispatches from South Africa show

that Lord Kitchener has succeeded in

holding the invading Boers in check.

But he has not been successful in

expelling them from Cape Colony,

while small commands continue to

display astonishing daring and activity

over an immensely wide field.

It is questionable whether his pro-

clamation will have much effect until

Gen. De Wet has been captured. The Boers

are likely to regard it as a sign of

weakness, and they have a wholesome

dread of De Wet's vengeance if they

surrender.

The proclamation is approved by the

party at home that favors conciliatory

terms to the Boers as a step in the

right direction.

Queen Victoria, it is said, has

approved the proposal to institute a

new order of Knighthood to reward

officers who have served in South Africa.

The order will probably be called the Star

of Africa.

A dispatch from Vryburg, dated Dec

20, says the Boers in considerable num-

bers were then making an unexpected

movement westward. They had 150

wagons. The dispatch suggests that

they were trekking to Damaraland, al-

though the Boers themselves denied

such an intention.

DEATH OF MAJ. WM. H.

MAULDIN.

Hampton, Dec. 26.—Major William

H. Mauldin, the State senator

from Hampton county, died today at

11:25 o'clock, after an illness extend-

ing over nearly a month. He died

of a complication of typhoid fever

and kidney trouble.

Major Mauldin was one of the

most energetic business men in the

Statement by Conger.

Washington, Dec 24.—Secretary Hay

has received a cablegram from Minister

Conger at Peking, announcing that he

had signed the agreement reached by

the foreign ministers, but had done so

with a written explanatory statement

setting forth the exact position of his

government.

The text of the statement is not

forwarded by Mr. Conger, but it is

understood to be based upon the last

instruction he received from the depart-

ment which, while disapproving the

inclusion in the agreement of some of

the more severe language, accepted it

as the best arrangement that could be

made at this time. It is believed that

the United States also, while sanction-

ing the provisions of the agreement

relative to the maintenance of perma-

nent lines of communication, legations

guards, and prohibition of the importation

of arms into China, indicates

clearly that constitutional reasons

prevent the executive from making any

pledge to take part in the execution of

these plans.

The signature of the agreement by

the minister closes what is regarded

here as the first, the most important,

and the most difficult phase of the

negotiations as to China, for it is not

doubted that the Chinese envoys will

subscribe to this agreement, without

amendment.

Its conclusion has been marked by

one of the most curious mistakes in the

history of international exchanges, for

by a cipher error, the majority of the

signers found to their amazement

that they had contracted to do exactly what

they did not intend, and moreover, the

error was irretrievable.

JOINT NOTE PRESENTED.

Peking, Dec 24.—The preliminary

joint note was delivered today to the

Chinese. Li Hung Chang found that

he was unable to attend the meeting

of the ministers, and his credentials

and those of Prince Ching were pre-

sented by the latter to the foreign envoys.

Prince Ching, replying to the Span-

ish minister, Senor B. J. De Cologan,

who presented the note, said he would

immediately communicate its contents

to the Emperor and assured the min-

ister that a speedy reply was the desire

of the court, as it felt that all China

wants peace and prosperity.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

Paris, December 25.—A dispatch to

the Havas Agency from Peking says:

"The ministers assembled at the resi-

dence of Senor B. J. De Cologan (the

Spanish minister and the dozen of the

diplomatic corps) and received Prince

Ching, to whom the Spanish minister

handed the joint note of the Powers.

Li Hung Chang, who is still ill, asked

to be excused. Prince Ching said:

"I have the honor to accept the note

concerning the reestablishment of good

relations and will transmit it immedi-

ately to the Emperor and communicate

to you his reply as soon as received."

Many Christians Burned.

Washington, Dec 26.—A cablegram

received at the state department from

United States Minister Conger dated at

Peking on the 24th inst., states that the

December 22, east of Chooan, be-

tween Peking and Pao Ting Fu, a

Chinese force numbering 2,500 men

men with artillery. The Chinese fled

in the direction of Kuan Hsien. They

suffered losses and left behind them five

standards and four cannons. The Chi-

nese probably consisted of the reunited